

CAPSULE SUMMARY

BA- 641

Wiseburg Methodist Episcopal Church

810 Wiseburg Road

Wiseburg, Baltimore County

1871

Private

The Wiseburg Methodist Episcopal Church was constructed in 1871 at 810 Wiseburg Road in the town of Wiseburg. The cornerstone for the church was laid in May 1871 and the church was dedicated on November 19 of the same year. Reverend Chapman oversaw the dedication of the church and preachers included Reverend Cleaver and Reverend Rudisell. Members of the Wiseburg and White Hall communities were buried at the cemetery, including members of the Collett, Miller, and Bull families. The church is located in the seventh district, which was the largest and most populated region of the county in latter part of the 19th century.

Set on a random rubble stone foundation, the modest church rises one-and-a-half stories in height and is laid in six-course American bond brick. Although the façade or west elevation is largely obscured by a 1993 brick addition, the date stone and circular window remain visible. The date stone, reading "Wiseburg M. E. Church 1871," is semi-circular in shape with a segmentally arched brick lintel. Directly below the date stone is a multi-light fixed circular window with leaded glass, a molded wood surround, and a soldier brick surround. The front gable roof is clad in asphalt shingles and an exterior brick chimney rises along the south elevation. The side elevations of the main block feature segmentally arched 6/6 windows with molded wood surrounds, soldier lintels, wood sills and operational paneled and louvered shutters. The 1993 addition is also constructed of six-course American bond brick. Rising one-story in height, the addition has a hipped roof with asphalt shingles and it is attached to the original church by means of a hyphen. Located on a grassy hill with a hedge at the corner is an historic cemetery that dates to the middle of the 19th century. There are also two non-historic buildings on the property, a shed and a shelter, both of which date to the last decade of the 20th century.

Maryland Historical Trust

Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. BA- 641

1. Name of Property (indicate preferred name)

historic Wiseburg Methodist Episcopal Church (preferred)
other Wiseburg United Methodist Church

2. Location

street and number 810 Wiseburg Road ___ not for publication
city, town Wiseburg ___ vicinity
county Baltimore County

3. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name Wiseburg Methodist Church
street and number 810 Wiseburg Road telephone Not Available
city, town Whitehall state MD zip code 21161

4. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Baltimore County Courthouse liber Not Available folio Not Available
city, town Towson tax map 17 tax parcel 89 tax ID number 0723050750

5. Primary Location of Additional Data

- ___ Contributing Resource in National Register District
___ Contributing Resource in Local Historic District
___ Determined Eligible for the National Register/Maryland Register
___ Determined Ineligible for the National Register/Maryland Register
___ Recorded by HABS/HAER
___ Historic Structure Report or Research Report at MHT
___ Other: _____

6. Classification

Category	Ownership	Current Function	Resource Count
___ district	___ public	___ agriculture	Contributing Noncontributing
X building(s)	X private	___ landscape	___1___ ___2___ buildings
___ structure	___ both	___ commerce/trade	___1___ ___ sites
___ site		___ defense	___ structures
___ object		___ domestic	___ objects
		___ education	___2___ ___2___ Total
		___ funerary	
		___ government	
		___ health care	
		___ industry	
		___ recreation/culture	
		X religion	
		___ social	
		___ transportation	
		___ work in progress	
		___ unknown	
		___ vacant/not in use	
		___ other:	

Number of Contributing Resources
previously listed in the Inventory
 1

7. Description

Inventory No. BA- 641

Condition

<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> altered

Prepare both a one paragraph summary and a comprehensive description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

The Wiseburg Methodist Episcopal Church, constructed in 1871, is located at 810 Wiseburg Road in Wiseburg, Baltimore County. Set on a random rubble stone foundation, the modest church rises one-and-a-half stories in height and is laid in six-course American bond brick. Although the façade or west elevation is largely obscured by a 1993 brick addition, the date stone and circular window remain visible. The date stone, reading "Wiseburg M. E. Church 1871," is semi-circular in shape with a segmentally arched brick lintel. Directly below the date stone is a multi-light fixed circular window with leaded glass, a molded wood surround, and a soldier brick surround. The front gable roof is clad in asphalt shingles and an exterior brick chimney rises along the south elevation. The side elevations of the main block feature segmentally arched 6/6 windows with molded wood surrounds, soldier lintels, wood sills and operational paneled and louvered shutters. The 1993 addition is also constructed of six-course American bond brick. Rising one-story in height, the addition has a hipped roof with asphalt shingles and it is attached to the original church by means of a hyphen.

Located on a grassy hill with a hedge at the corner is an historic cemetery that dates to the middle of the 19th century. Still in use today, the cemetery has approximately twenty rows of grave markers with the historic markers facing west and the newer graves facing east. These grave markers are mostly upright stones of granite and marble, with a few slate stones from the 1840s.

There are also two non-historic buildings on the property, a shed and a shelter, both of which date to the last decade of the 20th century. The shed is set on a cinder block pier foundation and is constructed of wood frame with plywood cladding. Standing one story in height and three bays in width, the shed has a side gable roof of asphalt shingles. Openings include a cross-braced double-leaf wood door flanked by three-light jalousie metal windows with metal surrounds. The shelter is one-story high and four-bays wide on a poured concrete foundation. Wood posts support the corrugated metal shed roof and the walls are open. At the center of the shelter is a cinder block barbecue pit.

8. Significance

Inventory No. BA- 641

Period	Areas of Significance	Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> health/medicine	<input type="checkbox"/> performing arts	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> invention	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-1999	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment/ recreation	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> religion	
<input type="checkbox"/> 2000-	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> ethnic heritage	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science	
	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/ settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> social history	
	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning		<input type="checkbox"/> maritime history	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation	
	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation		<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other:	

Specific dates 1871 **Architect/Builder** Unknown

Construction dates 1871, 1993

Evaluation for:

☐ National Register

☐ Maryland Register

☒ not evaluated

Prepare a one-paragraph summary statement of significance addressing applicable criteria, followed by a narrative discussion of the history of the resource and its context. (For compliance projects, complete evaluation on a DOE Form – see manual.)

The Wiseburg Methodist Episcopal Church was constructed in 1871 at 810 Wiseburg Road in the town of Wiseburg. The cornerstone for the church was laid in May 1871 and the church was dedicated on November 19 of the same year. Reverend Chapman oversaw the dedication of the church and preachers included Reverend Cleaver and Reverend Rudisell.¹ Members of the Wiseburg and White Hall communities were buried at the cemetery, including members of the Collett, Miller, and Bull families. The 1850 Atlas of Baltimore County suggests that the present church replaced the earlier Wiseburg Meeting House.

The church is located in the seventh district, which was the largest and most populated region of the county in latter part of the 19th century. The area historically consisted of rolling hills, traversed by major transportation corridors. It was supported by the cultivation of wheat, corn, oats, fruit, dairy, and the breeding of cattle. Wiseburg was a major railroad stop for the Northern Central Railway. Located twenty-three-and-a-half miles north of Baltimore City, the community was home to about fifty people in 1881. The village of Wiseburg was established by John Wise, an emigrant from Germany who came to this county about the time of the American Revolution. The community thrived on the production of wrapping paper, which was manufactured at William Wise's paper mill.

¹ Thomas J. Scharf, *History of Baltimore City and County From the Earliest Period to the Present Day: Including Biographical Sketches of Their Representative Men* (Philadelphia, PA: Louis H. Everts, 1881. Reprinted by Higginson Book Company, Salem, MA,) p. 874.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Inventory No. BA- 641

- Atlas of Baltimore County, Maryland*, Philadelphia, PA: G. M. Hopkins, 1877.
Baltimore County Historic Inventory.
Brooks, Neal A. and Eric G. Rockel. *A History of Baltimore County*. Towson, MD: Friends of the Towson Library, Inc., 1979.
Map of Baltimore County. Philadelphia, PA: G. W. Bromley, 1915.
Scharf, J. Thomas. *History of Baltimore City and County From the Earliest Period to the Present Day: Including Biographical Sketches of Their Representative Men*. Philadelphia, PA: Louis H. Everts, 1881. Reprinted by Higginson Book Company, Salem, MA.
Sidney, J. C. *Map of the City and County of Baltimore, Maryland, from Original Surveys*. Baltimore, MD: James M. Stephens, 1850.

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of surveyed property 1 Acre
Acreage of historical setting Unknown
Quadrangle name Hereford Quadrangle scale: 1:24,000

Verbal boundary description and justification

The Wiseburg Methodist Episcopal Church is located at 810 Wiseburg Road in the town of Wiseburg in Baltimore County. It has been associated with tax map 17, parcel 89 since its construction in 1871.

11. Form Prepared by

name/title	A. McDonald, R. Weidlich and A. Didden, Architectural Historians		
organization	EHT Traceries, Incorporated	date	May 8, 2001
street & number	1121 5th Street NW	telephone	202.393.1199
city or town	Washington	state	DC

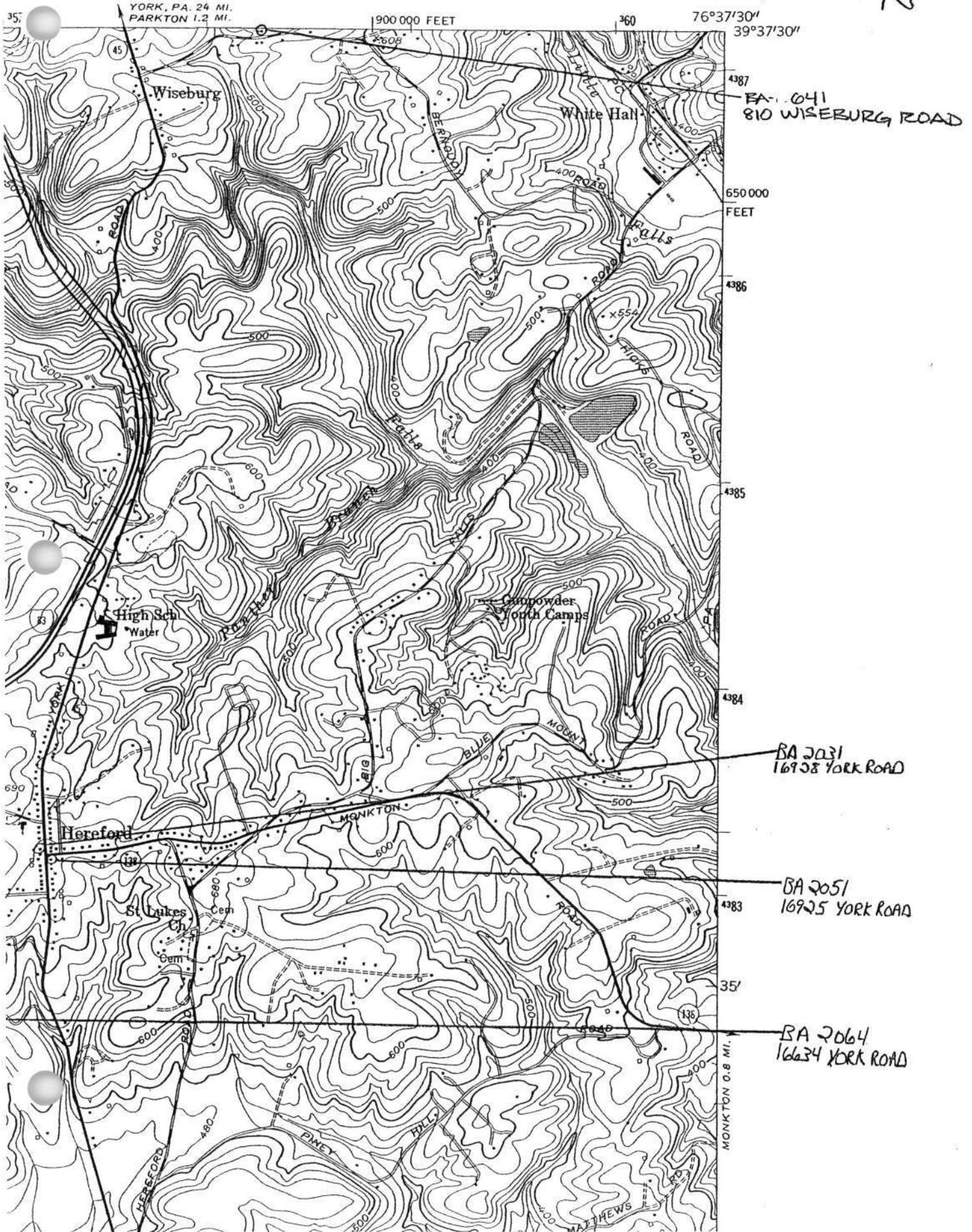
The Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to: Maryland Historical Trust
DHCD/DHCP
100 Community Place
Crownsville, MD 21032-2023
410-514-7600

HEREFORD QUADRANGLE
MARYLAND-BALTIMORE CO.
7.5 MINUTE SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC)

5663 11 NE
(NORRISVILLE)





BA 0641
810 WISEBURG ROAD
WISEBURG
BALTIMORE COUNTY, MD
TRAILERIES
412001
MD-SHED
SE CORNER

1 of 3



BA-0641
810 WISEBURG ROAD
WISEBURG
BALTIMORE COUNTY, MD
TRAILER
4/2001
MD-5400
NW CORNER
2 of 3



BA-0641

810 WISEBURG ROAD

WISEBURG

BALTIMORE COUNTY, MD

TRAILERIES

4/2001

MD-5480

SW ELEVATION

3 of 3

BA-641

WISEBURG UNITED METHODIST CHURCH AND CEMETERY - 1871 -
810 Wiseburg Road, 0.3 mile east of York Road. Plain
brick church in vernacular style built to replace a
meeting house of 1826. The church's educational
building was the last Wiseburg School house (See BA
1205).